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# CLEMATIS



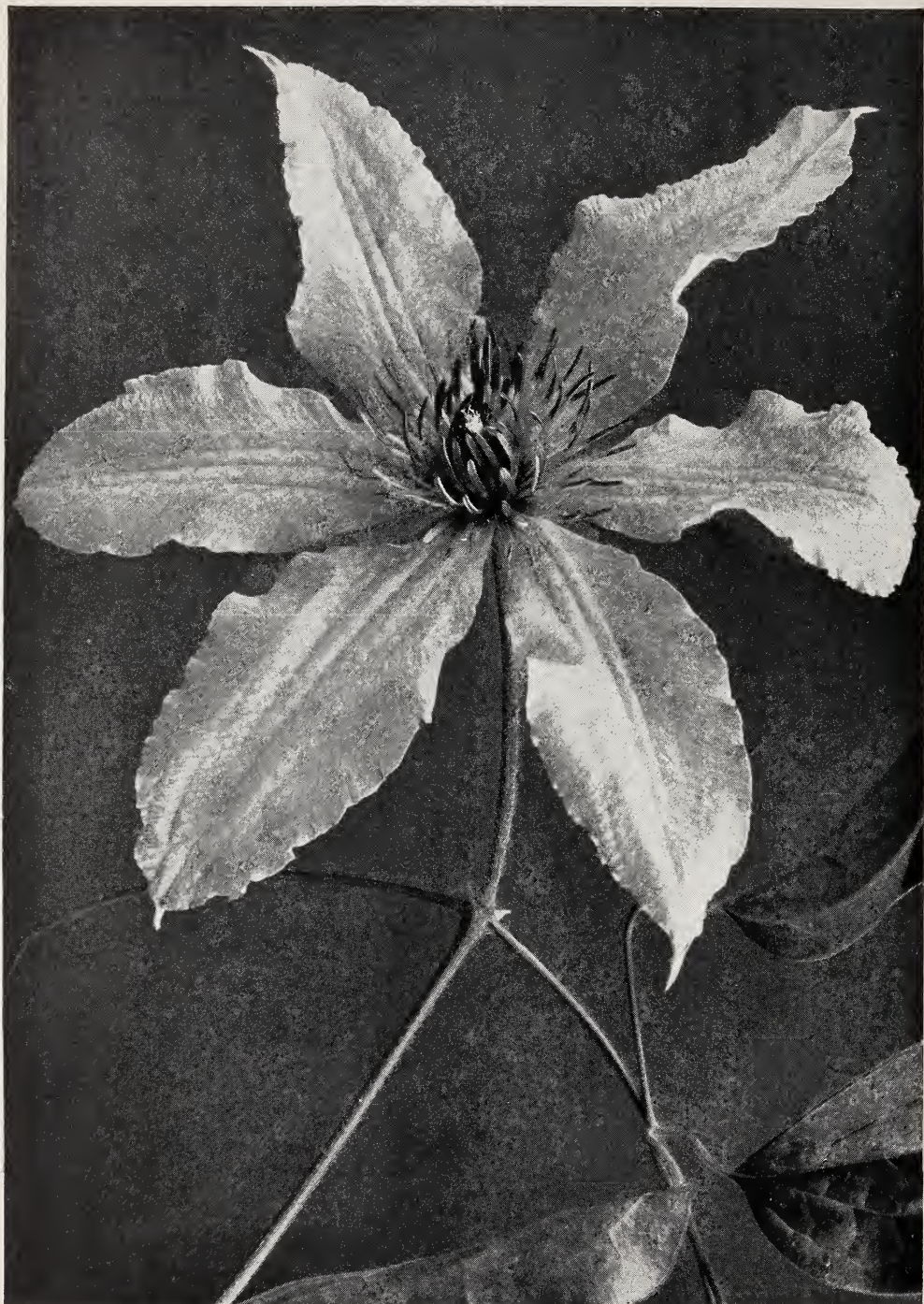
ELSA SPÄTH

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CLEMATIS, PRINS HENDRIK

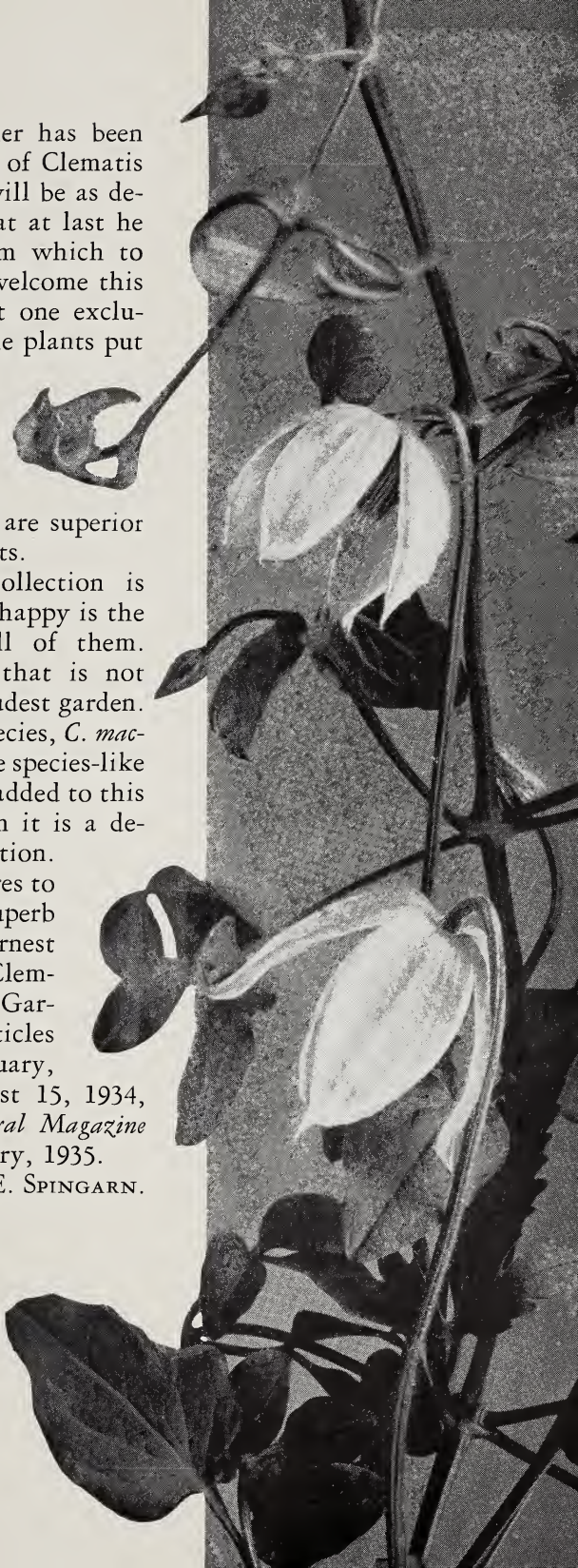


THE American gardener has been limited in his choice of Clematis for so many years that he will be as delighted as I am to learn that at last he has an ample selection from which to make his choice. He will welcome this booklet as perhaps the first one exclusively devoted to these noble plants put out by an American nursery. Above all, he will be glad to know that he is offered plants on their own roots, that is, plants propagated from cuttings, which are superior in every way to grafted plants.

A very representative collection is offered in this booklet, and happy is the gardener who possesses all of them. There is not one variety that is not worthy of a place in the proudest garden. Some day I hope that the species, *C. macropetala* and *C. alpina*, and the species-like hybrid *C. Jouiniana*, will be added to this list, but even without them it is a delightful and adequate selection. If the amateur gardener desires to continue his studies of this superb genus, he should consult Ernest Markham's little book on "Clematis," Norman Taylor's "Garden Dictionary," and the articles in *House & Garden* for February, 1934, *Horticulture* for August 15, 1934, and the *National Horticultural Magazine* for January, 1934, and January, 1935.

J. E. SPINGARN.

CLEMATIS  
TANGUTICA OBTUSIUSCULA



# New Beauty with Clematis

"No other group of climbing plants produce so large blossoms and none boasts such a wide range of color."

—ERNEST H. WILSON

PERHAPS no climbing plant is better known than *Clematis paniculata*, but not one gardener in a hundred has ever seen some of the magnificent hybrid species which have been growing in a New York garden for nearly forty years. New treasures are ever being sought by garden lovers, for it is the novel and the unusual feature that every garden enthusiast strives to acquire. The large-flowering Clematis offers a new field of interest to the enthusiastic amateur. Not only are these flowers striking in color and size, but they have a sturdiness of growth, coupled with a delicacy of form, which makes them objects of rare beauty.

The name Clematis had its origin in Greek and signifies a climbing plant. Its botanical relationship connects it with the anemone and the buttercup, and the Clematis will one day be as familiar as are many of the plants of the ranunculus family. Since practically all of the large-flowering Clematis had their origin in Europe and Asia, they have been difficult to obtain in America. However, as early as 1838, *C. florida* was exhibited at a Massachusetts Horticultural Society meeting. By 1890, Parsons' Nursery, on Long Island, had obtained 73 varieties which were offered to the public. With the turn of the 90's came a revival of interest in naturalistic gardening, and the choice Clematis was somewhat neglected. Preceding the war many varieties were listed, but Ernest Wilson remarked, in 1928, that, for the most part, named varieties of Clematis were difficult to procure. No doubt, Plant Quarantine 37 has somewhat retarded the development of interest in Clematis in America. Nevertheless, some 30 desirable varieties of Clematis are now available, and it will be observed that culture and care are very simple.

A partially shaded location is ideal. When planted in full







sun, the lower stems and roots should be shaded by small plants, since it is essential to keep the Clematis roots cool and moist. A mulch of peat-moss or spent hops may be used to great advantage.

Like many garden plants, Clematis thrives best in a rich garden loam of rather light texture. Sand and peat-moss may be added to a heavy soil to loosen it. Then, too, the soil must be well drained. Since Clematis is partial to lime, it should be mixed with the soil when planting, and if necessary it may be occasionally added thereafter, working it well into the soil without disturbing the roots (a spadeful to each barrow of soil). Applications of water during dry periods will help to keep the plants in a healthy condition. The addition of well-decomposed cow-manure, or any other animal manure or bonemeal, worked well into the soil, will supply the necessary plant nutrients.

Planting and pruning require no special skill. Clematis should be planted with the collar of the plant at least 2 to 3 inches below the surface of the soil. Prepare a sufficiently large area to accommodate the roots easily and spread them loosely. Then firm the soil around the roots. It is not necessary to cultivate Clematis, and, in fact, the roots resent coddling. In pruning, one must remember that those species of Clematis which bloom in the spring months, such as *Montana rubens*, *Recta*, *Montana undulata*, etc., should not be pruned until fall, except for the removal of dead wood, which should be cut out in February or March. Varieties which produce bloom on new wood in the summer and fall should not be pruned until they have become well established; then the vines may be cut back to a height of 3 feet to encourage vigorous new growth. However, if height is desired for some special purpose, merely remove the dead wood and thin out the stems to insure strong growth. Experiments have proved that size and quality of blooms are superior when the plants are pruned severely. However, it is well to allow all Clematis plants to become well established before doing much in the way of pruning.

While the uncertain winters of the past few years have given gardeners much alarm, it is well to remember that winter-killing can be greatly checked by simply applying a mulch of leaves,





CLEMATIS,  
WILLIAM KENNETT

straw or peat, or well-rotted manure, in the late fall. The mulch can be made to do double duty since it can be incorporated with the soil in the spring. Amateur gardeners are well aware that a little extra care is worth while for most new plants in the garden, and this is true of Clematis. It might be of interest to state that Clematis plants have withstood a temperature of 40 degrees below zero without injury when a protective mulch had been used. It is the alternate freezing and thawing during winter months that does harm to plants, hence the reason for using a mulch. In the case of Clematis the injury occurs at the collar of the plant. For regions north of Washington, mulching is especially recommended not only the first winter, but as a cheap insurance every winter.

The large-flowered Clematis are an equally desirable adjunct to the small backyard garden, to the large estate, or to the public park, since they lend themselves to so many different treatments. Trellises, pergolas, arches, wire supports, fences, old stumps, and the like, make desirable supports for these extraordinary flowers. Clematis supported on wires make distinctive tracery on garden walls. Trellises covered with such species as *Lawsoniana*, or *Comtesse de Bouchaud*, and *Mme. Baron-Veillard*, to mention only a few, add color and charm to any veranda and help greatly to connect the house with the garden. Many climbing plants are used for this purpose, and it is always wise to choose plants of distinction and character to create such harmony. Indeed, the unique beauty of the Clematis makes it especially desirable for this purpose. Architectural features in the garden often seem to assume undue prominence, and there is a need for plant material which will embellish and yet soften such features as pergolas without being coarse. Practically every variety of the large-flowered Clematis can be used to advantage. It may be a definite color that is sought, or a certain feature that is needed to make a vista more complete. Clematis may be combined with climbing roses on fences and arbors, or they may be used on posts or old tree-stumps in the perennial border. Whatever may be the requirement in the way of climbing plants, there is surely some species or variety of Clematis that can be used. Not only is the color-range great (as the reader will observe from the many kinds





CLEMATIS, DUCHESS OF ALBANY





CLEMATIS PANICULATA. DETAIL

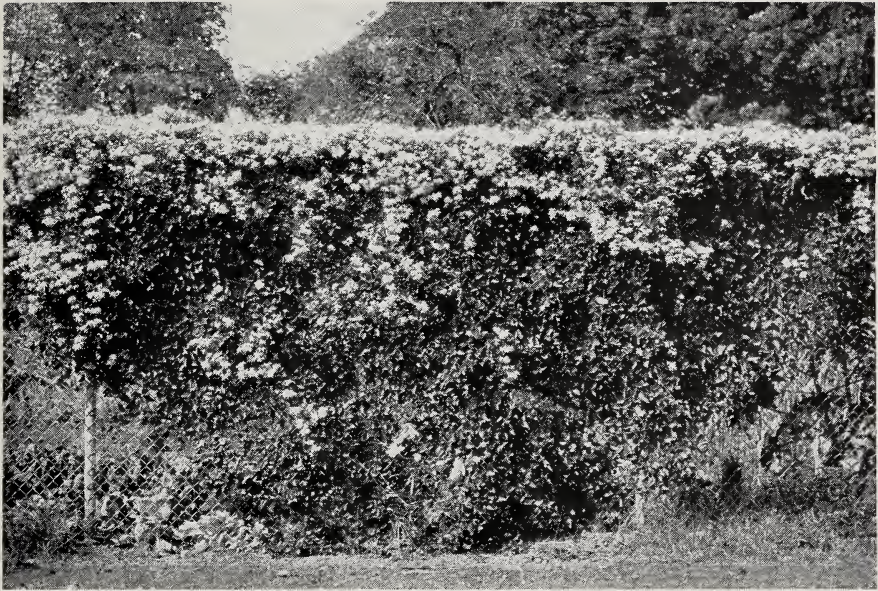
listed), but the foliage and seed-pods are a source of continual fascination.

As cut-flowers in the home, many of the Clematis can be used to advantage. They may be put in tall vases or arranged in low bowls. Sometimes sprays can be used for drooping effects, to break the formality of the container.

The large-flowered Clematis hybrids are propagated by grafting, layering, and cuttings, but it is generally conceded by authorities that the most satisfying plants are those grown from cuttings or layering, since there is no danger that the understock will predominate. It has also been observed that grafted stock is more susceptible to disease.

In the descriptions that follow the reader will observe that the large-flowered Clematis vary in height from 3 to 15 feet or more. Then, too, the color-range is wide, including tones of many colors from wine-red to pure white, with blue and violet hues predominating. Several of the species are yellow, but this





CLEMATIS PANICULATA. GROWING

color is not found among the large-flowered hybrids. Flower forms are curious, unique, and interesting. Some are saucer-like, suggesting the form of pond-lilies, and others have unusual bell-like flowers. The smaller-flowered species are usually taller growers than the large-flowered hybrids, and more floriferous. Nevertheless, the quality and the distinctive beauty of the large-flowered varieties places them in a class apart. Truly, when the range of color, the exquisite beauty of form, and the simple cultural requirements of the large-flowered Clematis are better known they will be regarded among the choicest gems of twentieth-century horticulture.

If you have never grown these beautiful flowers, you have missed some of the greatest thrills that can come to a gardener. It hardly seems possible that such frail-looking vines can in a few short weeks from time of planting produce such immense yet exquisitely beautiful flowers, and then keep on doing it for such a long time. You will never forget the first bloom.





Crimson King



Mme. Baron Veillard



Crispa



Duchess of Edinburgh



Lawsoniana



Lord Neville





Comtesse de Bouchaud



Texensis



Mme. Edouard Andre

## New Clematis

Gardeners who have grown and enjoyed *Clematis paniculata*, *C. Jackmani*, and the very few varieties which have been generally catalogued, will be surprised and pleased at the beauty of the varieties shown here. They are all just as easy to grow as the better-known varieties, and the sheer beauty of coloring in some of them is really breath-taking.

The delicate tones of Comtesse de Bouchaud can only be described as exquisite—and there is an ethereal beauty about some of the others which we are unable to portray in words. Color is not the only distinguishing mark; one will be fascinated by the make-up of the flowers—there is such a variation in the width of the petals as well as their shape.

Duchess of Edinburgh, one of the few doubles, is more intriguing than one would imagine in trying to picture a double Clematis. It is very lovely.

The two species shown here, *C. crispa* with bluish, and *C. texensis*, with scarlet, urn-shaped flowers which never fully open, are lovely things which have proved irresistible to almost everyone who has seen them.

## Large-flowered Varieties

ASCOTIENSIS. Tapering buds which assume many interesting forms when unfolding their large, azure-blue petals, producing a star-like form, with a circle center of creamy stamens accentuating the distinctive outline of the flower, serve to characterize this unusual hybrid of the Viticella type. It attains a height of 8 to 10 feet, and its blooming period extends from July to late September.

BELLE OF WOKING. An English hybrid recently introduced in America, it has double flowers that range from pale bluish mauve to silver-gray. Since the flowers are produced on year-old wood, pruning should consist of removing dead wood only. June and July are months of profuse bloom in the garden, and yet this climber attracts attention for its unusual charm. Eight feet seems to be its limit.

COMTESSE DE BOUCHAUD. Gracefully curved petals that range in tone from satiny rose to rich pink places this variety in a distinct category. Not only are the flowers the nearest approach to clear pink of all the hybrids, but the plant is a strong grower and a profuse bloomer from July to September, and reaches 8 to 10 feet in height.

CRIMSON KING. The name itself suggests the color, which is vinous red with brownish anthers. In size it is truly spectacular, for it often attains a diameter of 6 to 7 inches. Comparatively new, this showy hybrid (6 to 8 feet) holds the distinction of having the best red tone yet produced. The blooming period is from June to September.

DUCHESS OF ALBANY. Vigorous sprays of gorgeous pink, trumpet-like flowers on slender but sturdy stems suggest a grace and a delicacy rarely found among climbing plants. The dark brown center of the flower and the white streaks on the outer side of the petals are interesting features. July to September is the blooming period, and this variety is particularly desirable where it can be seen at close range. Of interest to those who are partial to American plants is the fact that this magnificent hybrid had its origin as a hybrid of Texensis—the Scarlet Clematis of Texas.

DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH. Double, pure white, and not unlike a gardenia, is the description for the flowers of this most desirable plant. White flowers make highlights in the shady garden and help to tone down the brilliant hues in the open border. It is interesting to note that this new introduction blooms on year-old wood, hence pruning should consist of removing only the dead wood in late February or





CLEMATIS JACKMANI RUBRA

March. The growth habit of Duchess of Edinburgh suggests its use for pillar treatment.

ELSA SPÄTH. Here is a true bright blue Clematis with a rich dark center which is accentuated by the crown of anthers. Profuse in bloom from July to September, vigorous in growth, and attaining a height of 8 feet, this variety has many desirable qualities which should appeal to lovers of blue flowers. What a feature for a blue garden with Formosa or Regal Lilies in the foreground!

HENRYI. It might well have been called Henryi gigantea for the large white flowers not infrequently measure 8 inches across. Although the growth is vigorous and it climbs to a height of 8 feet, Henryi is outstanding for its quality of bloom rather than its quantity.

JACKMANI. The most popular of all the large-flowering Clematis in America, with large, velvety violet-purple flowers, this variety has long held the popular acclaim which it so richly deserves. Rapid and vigorous in growth, often 10 feet high, it is profuse in bloom throughout the summer and early autumn. Its beauty and perfection can be retained by cutting back plants to 3 feet in order to encourage strong new wood.

JACKMANI RUBRA. A bright red variety of Jackmani, it has all the qualities that make the parent form desirable.

JACKMANI SUPERBA. Dark violet-purple and larger than Jackmani, it may well be considered a splendid addition to the large-flowered Clematis.

KERMESINA. To be sure, blue tones always bring forth lavish expressions, but then many of the red shades also cause exclamations. Kermesina is true wine-red with velvety texture which softens to a silky quality toward the center because of the light markings. This plant may be described as one of the medium-flowered type, but its quality entitles it to a place among the larger-flowered hybrids. Dainty foliage is another characteristic along with vigorous growth and abundance of bloom. An ideal accent for a light wall or tall trellis, this plant has a blooming period from July to September, and will grow 8 to 10 feet high.

LAWSONIANA. Another blue Clematis, but this one is flushed with mauve and is most attractive. Large flowers with overlapping petals, a long blooming season (June to September), and a strong, rich growth make it a striking feature in the landscape.

LORD NEVILLE. With petals rich in texture, like plum-colored velvet, Lord Neville will add a note of luxury and atmosphere to any gar-





CLEMATIS,  
RAMONA

den. Where average height and long blooming season are desired, together with flowers unusual in outline and exquisite in color, this extraordinary plant will meet the requirements.

MME. BARON-VEILLARD. If pastel tones are desired, the warm lilac-rose flowers of this French introduction will undoubtedly meet with approval. As the days get cooler, the color of the blooms becomes more intense, and its growth is checked only by frost. Then, too, it is tall growing (10 to 12 feet), sturdy of growth, and very profuse in bloom. The flowers are moderate in size, borne in generous clusters, and of unusually delicate beauty. From all accounts, Mme. Baron-Veillard is destined to become very popular.

MME. EDOUARD ANDRÉ. Another red Clematis, but this one has a purplish cast, the flowers are smaller, and the petals are more rounded than those of Jackmani rubra and Crimson King. Perhaps more modest in its rapidity of growth (7 feet), it excels, however, in a profusion of bloom. A cluster of these flowers suggests the richness and texture of an old Persian rug.

MRS. CHOLMONDELEY. Wisteria-blue is featured by this lady with the long name, and the color, we think, is far more remarkable than the designated name. Rare delicacy of color and large, open flowers, borne in profusion, are desirable qualities for summer-flowering vines, and it is extraordinary to find such an unusual tone of blue in this group of plants.

PRINS HENDRIK (PRINCE HENDRICK). There is something indescribably beautiful about blue flowers. Prince Hendrick is azure-blue, with ruffled petals often 7 inches or more in diameter. Indeed, the flowers suggest the beauty of rare orchids. It is desirable for conservatory treatment as well as for outdoor use, and in either case, the flowers last well when cut. Since it reaches a height of about 7 feet, it can be cared for easily in a conservatory and can be trained for a desired effect.

RAMONA. Probably so named because it suggested something of the beauty of the Indian maiden, this lavender-blue Clematis is accentuated by a disk of darker anthers. Short, pointed buds, rounded petals which make a full flower, and vigorous growth are the distinguishing marks of this exceptional variety which is a fine bloomer during the summer months.

VILLE DE LYON. This Clematis produces an abundance of carmine-red flowers which are all the more striking because of the darker tones in the center of each blossom. From July until September it clambers



CLEMATIS  
KERMESINA



to a height of 8 to 10 feet, displaying its profusion of bloom that is suggestive of some rare and luxurious fabric.

VILLE DE PARIS. While tones of blue predominate among the Clematis hybrids, red holds an important place with its quality of richness and distinction. Soft blue flowers with red on each petal suggest a gay note, especially when they are set against an ever-expanding background of green. July to September comprises the blooming season and 8 feet seems to be the maximum height of this French favorite.

WILLIAM KENNETT. The coolness of deep lavender is a welcome adjunct to any garden, and it is all the more effective when the flowers are unusual in character. In addition to having a long blooming period (June to September), William Kennett is a sturdy grower, and produces flowers of exceptional size.

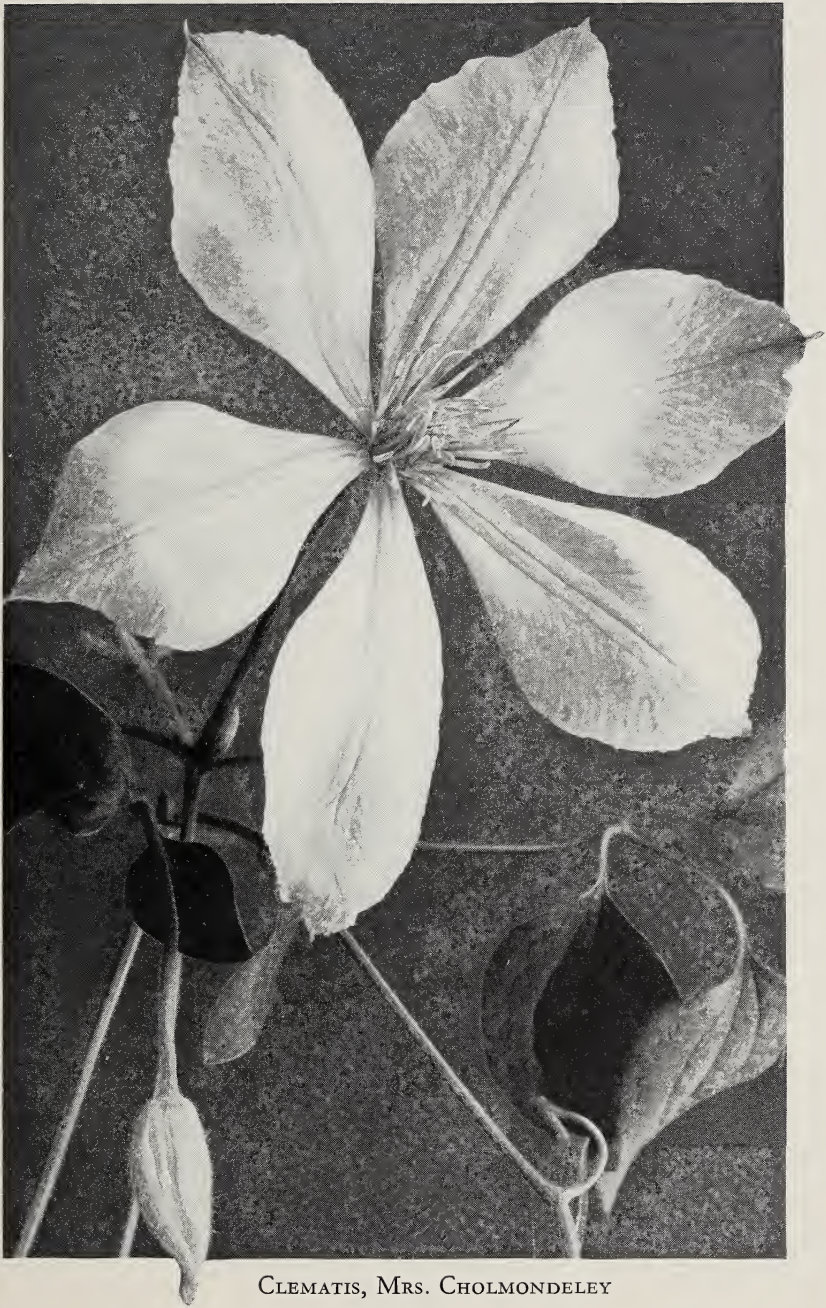
## Small-flowered Clematis

CRISPA. Also known as Marsh or Curly Clematis, it is characterized by graceful foliage and dainty bell or urn-shaped flowers. The color of this species, which is indigenous to the South, has been described as steel-blue, and it has proved hardy in northern New York. While its native habitat is that of a swamp, it thrives well in ordinary loam that has been well limed. These curious, bell-like flowers are in evidence from July to September and the plant can be expected to climb 8 feet on a trellis, or better still, scramble over some early-blooming shrub.

FLAMMULA. Sprays of creamy fragrance from the Mediterranean, produced in September, make this plant a desirable garden subject for fall color in gardens south of Long Island. Unfortunately, this species is not hardy north of that area. It is well represented, however, by the very popular *Paniculata* which needs neither description nor comment.

MONTANA RUBENS. "China, the mother of gardens," gave us this early-blooming variety with its rosy red flowers, 1 to 2 inches across, which change to a deep, clear pink as they expand. Here is a plant, too, for the garden in late May and June. It will enhance the beauty of any window, and seems particularly adapted for growing on walls, since it grows 10 to 15 feet tall. Then, too, the dark rich foliage, overcast with purple tones, lends interest through the summer. Because of the fact that it blooms on year-old wood, pruning should consist of the removal of dead wood only.





CLEMATIS, MRS. CHOLMONDELEY

**MONTANA UNDULATA.** Similar to *Montana rubens* in its general characteristics, this variety is distinguished by its soft mauve-pink flowers. A setting of stone, preferably a wall or a terrace, will do much to bring out the beauty of this Asiatic treasure.

**PANICULATA.** Familiar and desirable, this plant, with its panicles of fragrant white flowers, needs no descriptive comment except to emphasize the fact that it has many uses and is very reliable. It is a prolific grower, an abundant bloomer, and has very decorative foliage.

**RECTA.** A shrubby *Clematis* for the herbaceous border, producing white flowers in June and again in September. This species is decidedly short of stature—2 to 3 feet.

**TANGUTICA OBTUSIUSCULA.** Yellow bells on stately stems, or modest Chinese lanterns—describe them as you will, these flowers are golden yellow, dainty, and unusual. In late June come the first flowers, and the blooming carries through until September. Clambering over a rock, *Tangutica obtusiuscula*, the best of the yellow *Clematis*, seems to grow well.

**TEXENSIS.** Texas may well be proud of this species which has its natural habitat in that great state. Indeed, the curious urn-shaped flowers of reddish rose, softened on the inner side with buff and pinkish buff tones, make this plant, often listed *Coccinea*, unique. The long-haired seed-clusters are truly fascinating. Plant this species near a fence, or let it ramble over a stone wall, and it will soon take on a character all its own. It is well to know that this plant is herbaceous in our climate, and sends up entirely new growth each year.

**VIRGINIANA.** Commonly known as Virgin's Bower, this native species is a rampant grower and is often found along shady roadsides. It is ideal for the wild garden where naturalistic effects are desired. A profusion of white flowers in August and September, followed by curiously beautiful seed-pods, makes this species an interesting feature for big-scale planting.



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# Large-flowered CLEMATIS

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pot plants for your trade.

Photo at **right** shows a close-up of Jackmanii 2½-in. pot plant ready for shipment.

**At left:** the same plant repotted in a 4-inch pot, ten weeks after potting. Note the blossoms and growth.

**Jackmanii, purple**  
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**Mme. E. Andre, red**  
**Duchess of Edinburgh, double white**  
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1-year, 2½-in. pot plants; strong plants; dormant, and ready for immediate delivery, with no charge for packing or boxing. Cash.

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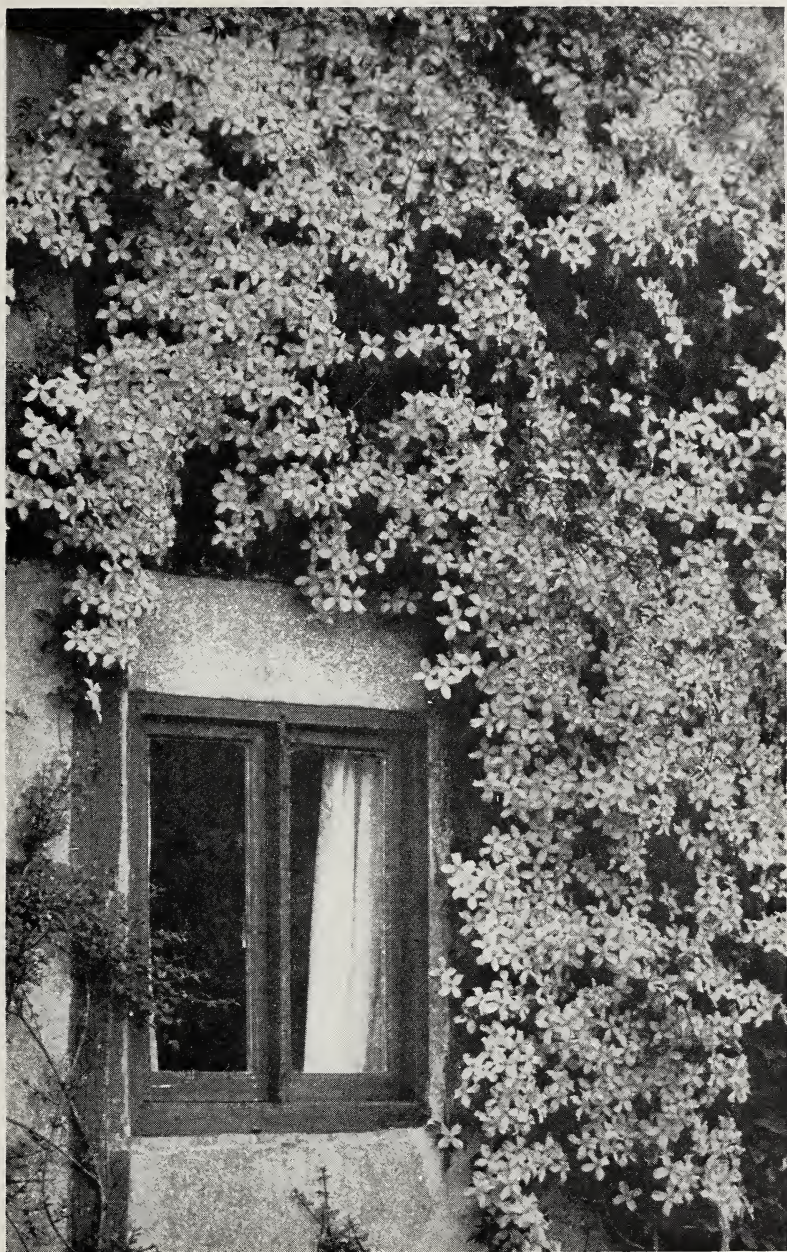
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CLEMATIS MONTANA RUBENS





**Clematis Jackmani.** A vine of overwhelming gorgeousness suitable for trellis or porch decoration. Easy to grow. Blooms over a long season. Perfectly hardy and attracts favorable attention everywhere.